



Hi there! We have received your registration for the Boskone 15 science fiction convention. We're happy you will be joining us at the convention; if we can be of any assistance to you, please let us know.

We hope that you will find this progress report useful. It contains directions and hotel information, some preliminary information about the convention schedule and programming...and a warm welcome from all of us on the Boskone 15 committee.

Jill Eastlake, Chairman
John Brunner, Guest of Honor
Arthur Thomson, Official Artist
Marvin Minsky, Science Speaker

Sue Anderson, Play
Kris Benders, Pseudo Banquet & Costume Party
Mike Blake, Program
Jim Burrows, 1st manager & apprentice treasurer
Bill Carton, Film program
Sheila D'Amassa, Publications & Ribbons
Brendan DuBois, Kinetic Katalog & Tape Program
Don Eastlake, Instructions
Ellen Franklin, Art Show Vice Chairman
Wendy Glasser, Games
Richard Harter, Print Room
Chip Hitchcock, Plaques & Play
Gail Hormats, Discussion Groups
Kathie Horne, Registration
John Houghton, 2nd Manager
Jim Hudson, People Mover
Mark M. Keller, Play
Suford Lewis, Art Show Chairman
Tony Lewis, NESFA Sales Table
Ann A.B. McCutchen, Committee Room, Treasurer
R. Terry McCutchen, Logistics
John Mitchell, Program Manager & Filksing apprentice
Lisa Raskind, Filksing Chairman, Filksing Contest
Steve Raskind, Preregistration
Joe Ross, Filksing Contest
John Spert, Logistics
David Stever, Con Suite
John Turner, 3rd Manager
Pat Vandenberg, Committee Room
JoAnn Wood, Hucksters' Room

GETTING THERE

1. This is the Sheraton-Boston hotel, the site of Boskone 15. It is located at the intersection of Dalton Street and Boylston Street with its main entrance on Dalton Street. It is a part of the Prudential Center and can be seen for miles, as the Prudential Tower is the second tallest skyscraper in the city.

VIA AUTO

2. Access from the Massachusetts Turnpike (Route I-90) is best accomplished via exit from the Pike going east (only) at the signs for "Prudential". The exit is in the tunnel under the Prudential Center and you must follow Prudential Center signs. The exit is EXIT ONLT and EASTBOUND ONLY. Turn right on Dalton Street.

3. Access from THE AIRPORT or from Route 3 (Southeast Expressway), Route 93, and Route 1 from the north is best accomplished by taking the Storrow Drive exit from the Central Artery (unmarked, of course) which is the part of Route 3 between the Tobin Bridge and the Southeast Expressway.

A. The Airport: Take Route 1A into Boston, through the Sumner Tunnel (25¢ toll), then go up the ramp toward the North, exit at Storrow Drive, then follow 6 below.

B. The North: At the end of the Tobin Bridge (only $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from Route 93's junction) exit west to Storrow Drive, then follow 6 below.

C. The South: The Storrow Drive exit immediately follows the Callahan Tunnel Exit to the Airport. Remain on the Central Artery until the Storrow Drive exit. Then follow 6 below.

4. From Route 1 in the South turn right at Boylston Street, and again right at Dalton Street. Your landmark on Boylston Street is The Cheri Theatre complex and the John B. Hynes Civic Auditorium.

5. From Storrow Drive from the West, exit at "Kenmore Square", proceed to Commonwealth Avenue, turn left. This is the first possible left turn. Go up the ramp toward Massachusetts Avenue (i.e., refrain from going into a tunnel). Turn right on Mass. Ave. and go left after you have passed over the Turnpike. Turn right on Dalton Street.

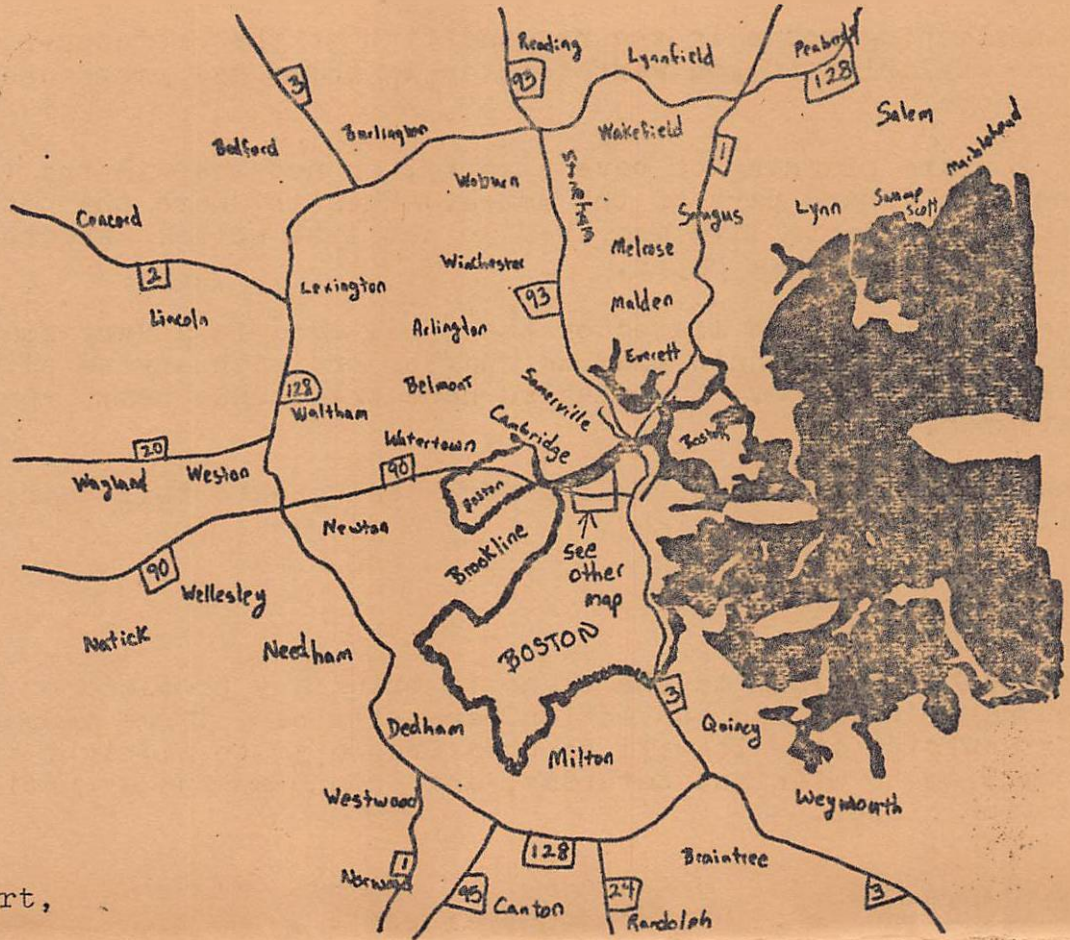
6. Either proceed to "Kenmore Square" exit as in 5, or take the Arlington Street Exit. Turn left on Beacon Street for half a block, then immediately right onto Arlington Street. Turn left on either Commonwealth Ave. or Newbury Street, and again left onto Hereford Street. On Hereford, proceed to Boylston Street, turn right and immediately left onto Dalton Street.

VIA BUS

ⓑ is the Greyhound Bus Terminal. It is on St. James Avenue. Go right on St. James to a left on Arlington and take the subway T OUTBOUND to Auditorium Station (Mass. Avenue).

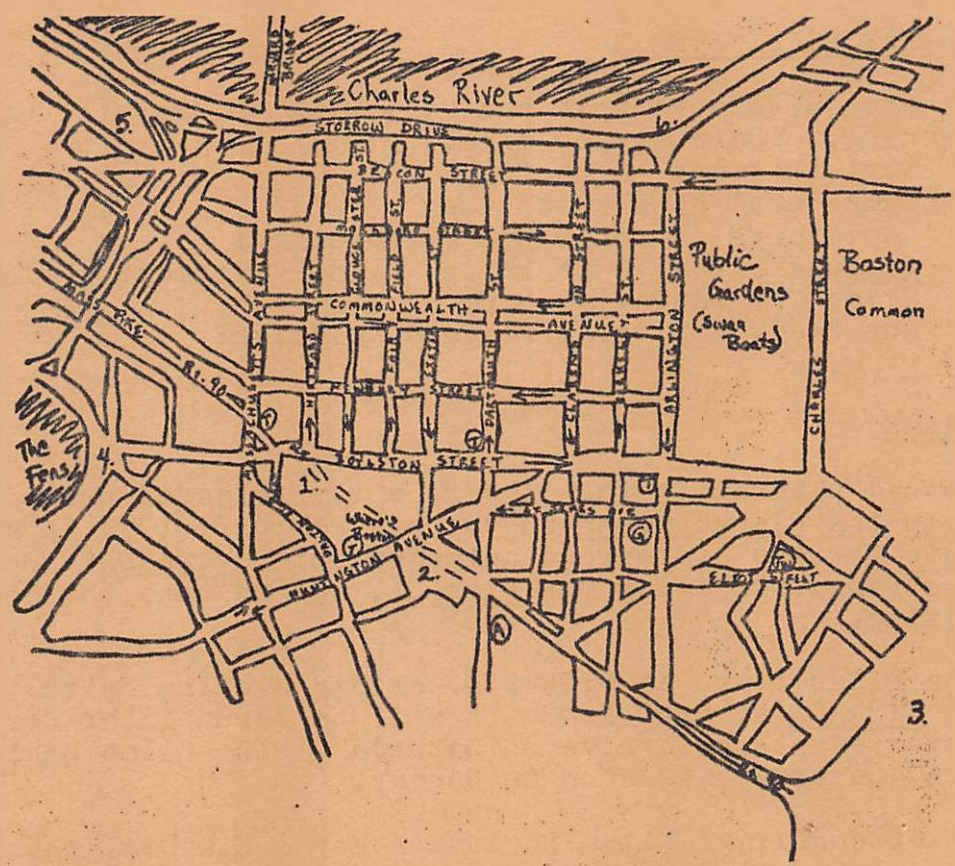
Ⓣ is the Trailways Bus Terminal. It is on Eliot Street. Turn right on Eliot, proceed to Arlington Street, turn right. Take the subway T OUTBOUND to Auditorium Station (Mass. Avenue).

ⓓ is the subway station. Auditorium Station is on Mass. Ave. Prudential Station is on Huntington Avenue. In either case, look up and find the Prudential Building. The Sheraton is right next door.



VIA PLANE
 From the airport, call a friend (236-2000) or take a cab. Cabs cost between \$4 and \$7. There is also, on the half hour, an Airport-Hotels limosine Service, which is \$2.25 to the Sheraton-Boston. However it is sometimes hard to find it.

VIA TRAIN
 (A) is the Amtrak Station, also known as Back Bay Station. It is a short walk to the hotel, or take a cab.



THE HOTEL

The sleeping rooms in the new addition to the Sheraton-Boston are now available; if you want to stay in these new rooms check with the hotel.

If you are planning to have a party, do not stay in the (expensive) Sheraton Towers part of the hotel. This is where the hotel's permanent residents live and they do not like noise. And the hotel likes to keep them happy.

The economy single listed on the hotel card is a very small room with a daybed. Don't plan on sharing one with anyone else; there really isn't room. The singles have one double bed; the doubles have two.

There will be NO FREE PARKING for hotel guests this year. Parking will cost \$3.50 per night

COMMITTEE ROOM

The committee room is the place to bring any problems or questions you have during the convention. There will be a large message board just outside it. It will be open from 6 pm to midnight Friday, from 9 am to midnight Saturday, and from 9 am Sunday until the convention closes.

REGISTRATION

Registration will be open from 6 to 10 pm Friday evening, and from 9 am to 6 pm Saturday. Registration Sunday will be in the Committee Room.

FRIDAY NIGHT EVENTS

We are quite sure that the following things will happen Friday evening. There may be more.

Registration: 6 to 10 pm

Hucksters' Room 6 to 9 pm

Pool Party 8 to 10 pm Bring suits!

Costume Party 9 to 12 pm Bring Costumes! Prizes awarded!

Films beginning at 6 pm

Not Ready For SciFi Players midnight

FILMS

We had planned to show the recently released print of The Creature From the Black Lagoon in 3D, but February 1978 is also the release date for the stupendous animated epic, WIZARDS! Boskone 15 will be the fannish premier for WIZARDS!, and we hope the change is to your liking.

The films start at 6:00 P.M. Friday evening, with the first showing of WIZARDS at 8:00 P.M. It will be rerun later for those who go to other events or arrive on Saturday. The films begin again at 10:00 A.M. Saturday; 12 Noon on Sunday.

Other confirmed films include A Boy & His Dog, the original uncut

King Kong, The Day the Earth Stood Still, Bedazzled, Brewster McCloud, and a special classic treat: the Cinemascope version of Forbidden Planet. Also: a tremendous number of shorts (last year almost 80 different ones), including the fannishly-produced Space 2999 (a spoof), NASA films, and award-winning animation.

One caution: Boskone films run on time and we are getting better at it each year. You may set your watches by the film room clock and be sure to see your favorites. Don't expect us to run one or two hours late because it doesn't happen.

Set-up is in the Commonwealth Room at 5:00 P.M. Friday. Volunteers with multi-projector experience are welcome to come and practice and sign up. We will have a new sound-deadening booth front to make it more comfortable for the crew and the audience.

ART SHOW

This year the art show will be bigger than last year, and we are continuing to attract artists who have not shown at previous Boskonos. We will have panels for hanging flat art work, and three display cases for small 3-D art work plus tables and floor space for larger 3-D items. Twenty artists have already reserved space. Last year all the space was reserved about a month before the Boskone, so if you are an artist and you want to enter get your reservation in soon.

The art show auction is run as part of the main program. There will be an hour auction on Saturday, and the items to be auctioned will be marked in the Art Show with a red dot. We feel that an hour is the longest effective auction time, and this is enough for about 50 items.

Close out will work like this: from 2:00 to 2:30 Sunday, the Art Show will be closed and cleared. The staff will mark all items with fewer than 8 bids as sold to their current high bidder. Items with NO bids will have a line drawn across their bid sheets signifying that anyone may pick them up for their minimums. Finally, items with 8 or more bids will be marked with a blue dot for mini auction in the Gardner Room at 3:00. Thus, for most pieces, bidders will know at 2:00 if they have bought them (i.e., no one can bid after the room is closed) and will be able to pick them up after 2:30. The contested pieces will be on display from 2:30 to 3:00 for viewing before the mini auction.

The Art Show hopes that everyone attending will have a chance to buy artwork. To that end, we wish to encourage everyone to come to the Art Show, cast a ballot for the Art Show awards, and write their bids on bid sheets displayed with each piece. All procedures are explained with each piece. All procedures are explained on signs in the show, and there will always be someone at the desk to answer questions. Sales are by auction or by bid sheet, and bid sheet bids may be written in anytime before Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

S	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
C		
H	10 am - 10 pm Art Show open	10 am - 2 pm Art Show open
E	4 pm - 5 pm Auction	2 pm Close of bid sheet bidding
D	10 pm Balloting for Art	2:30 pm Pick up begins
U	Show awards closes	3 pm Mini auction of contested art
L		5 pm Close of sales
E		6 pm Close of artist pick up

The Boskone art show has a different philosophy about fees than most other SF art shows. The fees pay for the hangings, display cases, supplies, security, and the cost of the space. We feel that artists should pay only for what they get -- display space. Thus, we charge a flat fee rather than a percentage of the sales price. We hope this encourages the artists to send their best work and reserve only the space they need. The fees are \$3 for $\frac{1}{4}$ panel (2'x3'), \$6 for $\frac{1}{2}$ panel (3'x4'), \$10 for $\frac{3}{4}$ panel, \$15 for 1 4'x6' panel, \$27 for 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ panels, and \$40 for 2 panels. The fee for a 3-D display item will be based on the size of its longest dimension: \$1 for 6" or less, \$2 for 6" to 3', and \$3 for larger items. Any artist who wishes to enter may send for a reservation form to the NESFA address.

Two continuing problems with art shows are: what rights the buyer gets when he or she purchases a piece of art, and what photographs are allowed by the artist. Policies on both these matters will be posted at the Art Show. In general, publication rights are not included, either for photographers or for buyers. These must be negotiated separately with the artist. If you're photographing art for your collection, or buying art and want to reproduce it, check with the art show and the artist first.

In the past people have made the high bids on art work and never showed up to claim it and pay for it. We would like to emphasize that a bid is a promise to pay the bid price for that piece; pieces must be paid for and picked up by 5:00 pm on Sunday unless other arrangements are made with the Art Show. Bids on art by previous "no shows" will not be accepted unless they assure us that they now understand this.

HUCKSTERS' ROOM

The hucksters' room at Boskone 15 will be located on the third-floor conference level of the Sheraton-Boston, in the new Beacon Complex. Hours Friday will be 6 pm - 9 pm; Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm; and Sunday from 10 am to 5 pm.

Anyone interested in selling books, jewelry, badges, film clips, etc please contact:

JoAnn Wood
873 Tower Ave.
Hartford, CT 06112
203-242-8286

Table diagrams and registration forms will be mailed out upon request. Table prices are \$15 for the first table, \$20 for the second, \$25 for the third table. A three-table alcove will cost \$75. These prices do NOT include a Boskone membership! Registration and payment must be in advance and must be received by January 31, 1978.

HELP!

As some of you may have noticed, putting on a Boskone takes a lot of work. We have to carry stuff around, run parties, set up the art show, run parties, sell things at the NESFA table, run parties, usher at the play, project films, run parties...If you would like to help us for an hour or two or three, please write and say what you'd like to do, and we'll get back to you to coordinate times and such. Or, if you get inspired to work while at the con, come by the People Mover room (Exeter, on the third floor) and volunteer then. We think of work as another track of programming, offered for those who might find it

interesting and fun. We try to provide something for everybody, even the workaholics, the masochists, and the power-mad.

RETURN OF THE GIANT RISFA or, THE PLAY

The new RISFA Players production for Boskone 15, Back to Rivets, part II (tentative title), opens at a hiring hall for SF heroes and villains, populated by a varied crew of series stereotypes (Perry Rhoden) and out of work space opera stock characters like the Grey Lensman and Simon Strong, Scourge of the Spaceways. Unfortunately, public taste being what it is, the Incredible Hulk keeps getting parts while poor old Charles Dexter Ward hasn't had a casting call for 35 years. (You remember Charles, don't you? He meets a gory death in one of H.P. Lovecraft's eldritch novels.)

What can you say about a seventy-five year old space opera character whose series has died???

C.D. Ward, the Lensmen, Conan the Original Barbarian, and the one and only Isabella Figholler decide to set up their own agency through the good offices of SF publishing tycoon Chester Deth-Ray. The problems begin. Helmuth the Speaker for Boskone tries to make a comeback and has to battle Darth Vader for a really villainous role. Conan tries to explain his existential views on SF to a group of high school English teachers, with the predictable success.

As usual there are lots of songs, mostly from Gilbert and Sullivan, and lots of dances and many truly terrible puns, plus cameo appearances by numerous sfnal characters. The writers and producers are still locked in battle over whether to include Commander Spock singing The Ballad of Bilbo Baggins. (The vote so far is 2 to 1 against...so if you really want to hear it, request an encore.)

For fans of 1930s SF, for those who hate 1930s SF, and for folks who think there should be more fannish musicals -- we present Back to Rivets, part II.

THE FAR FROM FINAL PROGRAM

Boskones nowadays have two tracks of programming, usually a main event and a seminar in the same time slot. Specifics, of course are not possible until a week or two before the convention.

However, there are a number of things lined up that do have a high probability of still being there in February. You devotees of the bon mot who were not sated at Boskone 14 will be delighted to know that Fun Night will return. Start sharpening those rapier wits now!

The panels we've got firm commitments on look extremely promising. Over at Harvard Observatory noted opinionist Guy Harris is already marshalling his arguments for our sure-to-be controversial Black Hole panel. There are planned panels on everything from Art to Artificial Intelligence to Alternate Worlds.

If you have any ideas of your own in regards to panels you'd like to see or be on, speeches or presentations you'd be interested in, ideas and topics you'd like covered, write to Mike Blake in care of the NESFA post office box and let him know. If we don't use it this year, there's always Boskone 16.

NESFA TABLE

The NESFA table will be open in the hucksters' room selling NESFA books and other publications. The Boskone 15 book by John Brunner, illustrated by Arthur Thomson (ATom), will be on sale there. John Brunner will be autographing these at the table; times will be posted at the convention.

HEALTH NOTES

The air in the sleeping rooms at the Sheraton-Boston is exceptionally dry...sinus sufferers take note. A small vaporizer works wonders. Also, in the past there have been occasional dogs and cats at Boskones. Those of you allergic to these animals might want to bring your pills, just in case.

If you have comments, questions, suggestions please write to us.

NESFA, Inc.
Box G MIT Branch P.O.
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

NEW ENGLAND SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION, INC.
POST OFFICE BOX G, MIT BRANCH POST OFFICE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 USA

FIRST CLASS MAIL



PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS BEFORE READING OTHER SIDE!

1. Do you consider yourself primarily _____ an artist _____ a writer
_____ other
2. Do you have a strong interest in _____ comics _____ drama
(including tv, plays,
or movies)
3. Did you watch a lot of tv as a child? _____ as a adult? _____
4. When you are daydreaming or making up a story, do you:
_____ tell yourself the story _____ hear the dialog
_____ see a picture _____ see a picture and hear the dialog
_____ other (please specify)
5. While reading, do you visualize either the action or the characters?
_____ action _____ characters _____ both _____ neither
6. Do you daydream in: _____ color _____ black-and-white _____ both

PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS ON THE OTHER SIDE BEFORE YOU READ THIS!

A sort of explanation

Some time ago, I became interested in visualization in daydreaming, in the following manner. I was telling a story to a friend, and she asked for a description of one of the major characters. I couldn't give one, since I do not visualize, either during reading or daydreaming. My friend couldn't understand this, since she apparently sees very clear, well-defined pictures when she daydreams.* As a non-visualizer, I was both jealous and intrigued, and began to ask all my other friends.

There seems to be a correlation between visualization and the type of creative work a person prefers. However, my previous sample was very small and disorderly, and I'm interested in taking an informal survey to see what proportions of people visualize, and what relationship it has to people's other interests.

The results, if any, will be published in my fanzine, MASIFORM D, and also made available to anybody who's interested.

Please return information to: Devra Langsam
627 East 8th St
Bklyn NY 11218

* "What do you mean, you don't know what he looks like! He's your character, isn't he?"

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